

APPROVED 11/14/2007

Present: Charles Kimball, Chair, Pat Martel, Donald Gates, Jr., Mike Nygren, Andy Kohlhofer, Doug McElroy, Road Agent Guerwood Holmes, Town Administrator Heidi Carlson, Public Keith Stanton, who videotaped the meeting, and Recording Secretary Kathy Arsenault

Charles Kimball, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Introductions were made around the table.

Minutes from the October 31, 2007 meeting were distributed.

Road Agent Guerwood Holmes was here to present the budget proposal for the Highway Department. Winter Salt - \$22000 down from \$25000 last year. This does not include for the last 3 loads on salt that was spent. The decrease is mainly due to the light winters we have had. Winter Sand - \$7455 this is the same as last year. Winter Equipment Hire - down from last year request, but still could spend \$30,000 through the end of this year. Guerwood noted that we can't cut it a whole lot, because you can't predict a bad winter. . Plow/Sander Fuel/Maintenance - is the same as last year. Summer Equipment Hire - I have lowered it this year down to \$50,000. Labor - This has been adjusted for the full-time employee to include 3%, and is pending the wage study. Labor /Overtime - Is the same as last year. Culverts - Lowered this year by \$2000. We are ok here. Cold Patch/Hot Patch - Same as last year. Signs & Posts - Lowered to \$1200. Gravel Stone Loam - Same as last year at \$7000. Hand Tools & Supplies - Increased to \$300. Power Tools - at \$0 because we don't need any. Communications - \$1,400 this is based on the monthly charges for 2 Nextels.

Engineering - \$500 Fees for surveying, lot lines, etc., if needed during the year. Guerwood stated that there was a previous issue on Chester Road regarding drainage problems. Mike Nygren asked if we resolved then. Guerwood stated that no, we didn't do the job. He added that we engineered it out for down the line. It was decided then to not spend the money at that time; it could be a \$10,000 project. Guerwood stated that there is a large wet area on Chester Road, but it doesn't come out over the road. A property owner on Chester Road wanted the Town to do something about it. The water doesn't go over the road so it was decided not to spend the money on it.

Painting Lines - Lines weren't painted last year. The last time they were painted they didn't last. Guerwood added that there are roads that definitely need the lines painted. He added that they are looking for a better company to do it this year. Andy Kohlhofer asked if the warranty or guarantee their work. Guerwood replied that he didn't know, he will look into this while searching for a new company. Tree Cutting - \$15,000 we went over budget this past year. Guerwood added that we still have lots of trees to cut. Mike Nygren asked if there were any trees designated to be cut. Guerwood replied that they keep popping up and that there is a great concern for dying trees. Guerwood noted that there was a call on South Road that there were poles to close to the road, PSNH came and took care of it and it didn't cost the town anything. Road Side Mowing - \$1600. Beaver Control - \$500 We have lots of problems with them right now. Andy Kohlhofer asked if we move or kill them. Guerwood replied that a trapper takes them away. Road Agent Salary - \$4,511 includes a 3% increase. Guerwood added that there are a lot of things that he does that he does for free. There is a lot of subdivision work going on, private roads being paved, someone has to watch the pavement. Engineers have called on him because they can't be there and it is very important to watch the pavement. It is had to charge someone, so there are times he does it for free. Mileage - \$0. Training - \$350 This is mostly for the full time employee. Leon Holmes, Jr. has received Road Scholar I status through this training. Guerwood added that he believes Leon is the first in Fremont to achieve this.

Clerical - \$0. New Equipment - \$7,100. Guerwood stated that he might be able to take it out of this budget to purchase an 11-foot angle plow from the Winter Equipment. He has discussed this with the Selectmen and asked Donald Gates, Jr. to speak regarding it.

Donald Gates, Jr. stated that they have discussed for this purchase to pull the funds out of last years budget rather than appropriating money for 2008, when the money is already in there currently. Doug McElroy

asked what would you do in the case of a bad winter. Mike Nygren added that if worse comes to worse we could still add it as a warrant article, if we have a terrible winter between now and then. Doug McElroy stated that we would have to increase the budget at Town Meeting. Donald Gates, Jr. added not on a warrant article though, just ask to increase the operating budget. Charles Kimball asked if they have money in the Equipment Capital Reserve. Guerwood stated that they could use that or add to it. Mike Nygren stated that he thought it was a good thought, Pat Martel agreed. Donald Gates, Jr. added that if we wait and order in March, we wouldn't get the plow until July. Gates added that if we order now, we could use it for this winter. Guerwood stated that this would be put on Highway 2, Leon Holmes, Jr.'s truck. Guerwood stated that this plow works great in cul-de-sacs. He added that the other plows are getting old and rusty.

Truck Maintenance – Increased by \$500. Guerwood stated that just had new brakes put on and new tires put on in the front. He added that this is not a lot for truck maintenance and they will use up the entire \$1000, Mike Nygren asked if the tires are purchased tax-free. Guerwood didn't know. Heidi Carlson stated that we do not get the federal tax on the tire purchases. Charles Kimball added that if we purchased them all from the same place, we could save quite a bit of money. Discussion regarding tires, how often for changes, purchases, etc., took place.

General Supplies - \$500 Same as last year. Truck Fuel - \$5,000 same as last year. Guerwood stated that he hopes that this is enough, but that you never know with the price of fuel. Safety Equipment - \$250 We increased this to purchase safety items such as masks to wear while sweeping. We want to be sure that we are taking proper safety measures. Mike Nygren stated the importance of safety equipment.

Guerwood Holmes stated that overall the budget is down, but he did up the road overlay amount. He added that the Block Grant could come in higher this year. Guerwood stated that the total cost per ton of hottop from Brox Paving is up \$1.00/ ton. It was \$55/ton for 2007 and is proposed to be at \$56/ton for 2008. The total tonnage need for the 4 roads is 1,200. Guerwood mentioned that the roads are Birch Haven, Rock n Pine, Pulaski Drive, and Sandown Road. Sandown Road from the bridge just past Whittier Drive is falling apart. It is a very busy road and needs to be a priority. Guerwood stated that it is time to repair these roads. Doug McElroy asked if the roads are about the same age. Guerwood stated that he believed that Birch Haven was done about 15 years ago. He stated that both Rock n Pine and Pulaski Drive are close to 20 years since they have been touched. Guerwood added that Sandown Road has gotten worse since Whittier Drive was put in. Guerwood stated that there have been a lot of subdivisions in recent years, and this causes more work to be needed.

Andy Kohlhofer asked about impact fees and could you use them to purchase equipment. He added that the school gets impact fees and could we introduce a warrant article for the town. Heidi Carlson stated that you would have to introduce a warrant article for a study to be done. Andy Kohlhofer stated that as we expand, at least we could get some of the money back. Andy Kohlhofer stated that, in almost every budget, there seems to be a 10% increase. He added that so far it is a little bit here and there, but we are looking at pretty hefty increase overall. Doug McElroy noted that the Fire Department brought us less than they brought us last year, except for the warrant article. Andy Kohlhofer stated to Guerwood that over the years you went down some and now you are back up to normal. Guerwood stated that he tries to keep the budget down. Doug McElroy asked what overlay need be done in 2009. Guerwood stated that we can't let the overlays go, we will fall behind if we don't keep up with it. He added that last year Shirkin Road was supposed to get done. We ran into problems with North Road and Shirkin didn't get done. Charles Kimball noted that once you cross the town line, Fremont is still better than Epping. Pat Martel asked when will you do Shirkin Road. Guerwood replied that he didn't know. Doug McElroy stated that the soccer fields bring in a lot of traffic. Guerwood noted that Mast Tree is something we need to keep up with as well. He added that it has been at least 15 years since it's been done, and that it has a high water table under it. Guerwood added that a 1-½ inch overlay is a good idea to making the roads better and stronger so that they will last longer.

Charles Kimball asked if anyone had questions. Doug McElroy asked about the Winter Equipment Hire. Guerwood Holmes stated that it has only happened 2 times that we needed to ask for additional money at Town Meeting for a hard winter January to March. Guerwood stated that if we got into trouble, we ask for more in the budget at town meeting. Doug McElroy added that with winters you can never know what to plan for. Charles Kimball noted that the costs are mostly for maintenance. Guerwood said yes, and that the town is lucky to have good plow guys. They are all good at what they do. I have been lucky to have them. They keep the roads in good shape.

Doug McElroy asked about the Capital Reserves, and what are you planning on spending it on. Guerwood stated that they need 3 sanders. He added that the biggest expense would be for sanders at about \$18,000 for a new one. Guerwood thinks that's going to be the biggest concern, stating that if you don't have good sanders you are in trouble. Guerwood stated that someday we are going to have to buy town trucks, but not right now. Guerwood stated that the estimate for the highway building is about \$100,000 and that he hasn't gotten a new estimate. We are really close now maybe another year or two. There is also capital reserve money set aside for a maintenance building. Charles Kimball added to make sure you put the radiant heat in the floors. He said that it would cost more in the beginning, but saves money in the end. Guerwood stated that he thinks we are looking at 2009 or 2010. Andy Kohlhofer asked if you would have office space. Heidi Carlson said that yes, in the new building there would likely be an office. Office space and septic discussion took place including discussion of a port-o-potty or composting toilet.

With no further questions, Guerwood Holmes left the meeting at 7:50 pm.

Peter Bearse entered the meeting at 7:55 pm.

Members reviewed the minutes from October 31, 2007. Mike Nygren referred to the page 4 discussions regarding the raises, stating he feels it is a catch 22. Mike Nygren stated that you have to have a certain amount of integrity in voting. He added that it is about having concern for the welfare of the town not the person. Mike Nygren added that Peter Bolduc and Don Gates, Jr. should abstain from the Planning Board and Police Department budgets, having family members in them. He stated that if I can't they can't. Charles Kimball said Mike you missed my point, the 3% doesn't count. Mike Nygren said that the 3% COLA isn't required. He added that if I were hiring based on the anniversary date and passing an evaluation, then you get a raise. The 3% is based on whether the business or the town is doing well and can afford to give it. Mike stated that he is an elected official, he has run businesses before, and he bases his decisions on what is best for the town. Mike added that he would like to take the whole paragraph out of the minutes, or I would like for it to be equal and fair across the board. Charles Kimball stated that a budget committee member couldn't vote for a raise on any member of their family. Andy Kohlhofer stated that we would have to look into this further. Doug McElroy suggested it was for immediate family only. Charles Kimball stated that a member couldn't vote if for instance your vote was for your wife's raise. Mike Nygren stated that he would like to think we are above that. He added I hope that in all honesty if I vote for someone for a raise, it is going to be based on merit and because they deserve it.

Peter Bearse, I agree with your statement, but what about the 3%. Mike Nygren said I don't believe in the 3% - just because. The town perhaps has an inherited system, that doesn't mean it's wrong, it's just inherited. Mike added do I think that Heidi Carlson should give herself 3%; no it should come for the Selectmen or the Budget Committee. Peter Bearse asked I want to understand, according to the minutes, if someone were to make a motion for the 3% would you vote on it or not. Mike Nygren answered that he would vote on it, but he wouldn't vote to approve it. Andy Kohlhofer asked are you saying to look at the revenues and if they look strong, consider the 3%. Mike Nygren stated that of the 3 town meetings I have gone to, with budgets this committee didn't approve, the town could still vote it in. It is out of our control. They don't care about all the town business. Mike added that pay raises are something you can control. Mike Nygren stated that you don't have to give it all the time. Doug McElroy stated then perhaps we should leave it up to the voters. Donald Gates, Jr. said we haven't seen the RSA yet, no one at this table has seen

this law. Charles Kimball said he has been looking through his notes for it. Donald Gates, Jr., said I would be more inclined if it was 1 individual we were talking about, but a whole department, I think is a little different. Doug McElroy added that some departments are only one person. Donald Gates, Jr., stated if it was 1 individual, I would agree to abstaining, but across the board, I don't know. We want to keep the good dedicated people that we have. Mike Nygren said that financially, that could happen to us forever. Donald Gates, Jr. said we labor over the town budget, yet we have no control over the school budget. Mike Nygren said that we all sit here with the intent that our votes are made in good conscience. Andy Kohlhofer stated that we have to keep that in the minutes. Charles Kimball said that he is still checking for that. Andy Kohlhofer noted that we should get this verified. Doug McElroy asked if we should amend the minutes. Donald Gates, Jr. suggested that we ask the Municipal Association for their help before we decided. He added that we need to make sure we have an understanding of this before we head down that path for all departments. Donald Gates, Jr. said that he would vote in good conscience as well.

Peter Bearse stated that even if we don't approve it, the Selectmen could, as well as the voters at Town Meeting. Doug McElroy and Donald Gates, Jr. agreed. Peter Bearse stated that the problem with a COLA is it becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy and in some ways it can be self defeating. Peter added that it was a general practice several years ago, but that wage setting should be based on productivity and/or merit. Donald Gates, Jr. agreed to the step by step. Peter added that the 3% should not be a casual giveaway, it should be voted on.

Meeting minutes from October 31, 2007 were reviewed. Motion to accept the minutes as corrected was made by Andy Kohlhofer and seconded by Mike Nygren. The vote was approved.

Peter Bearse asked for the budget for the Town Clerk's Office. Heidi Carlson does have it from the Town Clerk. Heidi Carlson provided the board with copies of this budget.

Heidi was about to start with the computer, programs and maintenance.

Andy Kohlhofer asked if before we continue, he would like to have a quick discussion regarding the School Board budget. He added that this is referring to the statement proposed by Peg Pinkham last week regarding if we have anything to ask of the School Board. Andy Kohlhofer stated that it would be good to get a sense of the Budget Committee. He added not just to address everyone's individual concerns, but instead those of the Committee. Andy Kohlhofer noted that he would like a discussion to take place regarding what we want to present to the School Board. It was decided to continue with other budgets first and then discuss this.

Andy Kohlhofer asked if the Town Clerk is at 40 hours this year. Mike Nygren stated yes, this is the third year at the 40 hours. Mike Nygren asked regarding the increase in hours for the Deputy Town Clerk, from 25 to 30, is there justification for it. Andy Kohlhofer stated that we have asked the Clerk to submit a time log to present to us so they could justify the hours. Heidi Carlson read from the justification provided by the Town Clerk, for the Deputy Town Clerk's increase in hours. She stated that the Deputy Town Clerk would be attending additional training this year with at least 25 to 30 for the Electionet System. There will also be training for the new statewide validator/decal equipment. There are 4 elections in 2008 requiring coverage at the polls, processing voters, as well as absentee ballots. Heidi continued saying that the Town Clerk noted that the last election had 1600 voters at the poll, and over 150 absentee ballots. Mike Nygren said that the 5-hour increase should not be based on an election year. Mike Nygren stated that the town hasn't grown that much in the last 3 or 4 years to have one at a 40 hour/week and one at a 30 hour/week equaling a 70-hour workweek. He added that there has not been a great increase in revenue either. Mike Nygren said that we are creating 2 full time positions for 2 full time jobs. Mike Nygren suggested to have a complete break down over the last few years revenues, including marriage licenses, vital records, etc. Andy Kohlhofer stated that once it goes up to the 30 hours, it is not going to go back.

Mike Nygren said that a town clerk's job description is limited, adding that even if she has to work 80 hours a week, then that's her job. Andy Kohlhofer added that she might only work 25 hours a week. Andy Kohlhofer asked could we do a separate line item for this. Heidi Carlson said that are a number of ways it could be done. Mike Nygren said I would like time to set up some questions for the Town Clerk. He added that we have increased the workload almost two fold. Mike said that when you run a service it takes time to process it. He continued you could be open 24 hours, but your workload could be accomplished in 8, justifying more of a workload, doesn't justify more hours. Mike stated that some town clerks work 2 half days, some work Saturdays, and other NH towns and their profile have clerks at 32 hours and below. Donald Gates, Jr. said the Town Clerk's Office has become much more complex in the past few years. He added that they are doing a lot of work here in this office. Mike Nygren stated that the Town Clerk by statute doesn't have to work if the work is getting done. Donald Gates, Jr. said that the work they are doing now is more complex. Mike Nygren said not for 30 hours a week. Mike stated that if you put them on a fee basis, as a registered agent, I doubt if they bring in any more on fees than she brings in now. The pay scale would not justify any more than that. Mike stated that it is easier for "A" to ask "B" to do the work. Andy Kohlhofer stated the revenue numbers are going down. Andy asked where the rest of the numbers are. Heidi Carlson stated she does not have up to date Clerk's revenue that balances with the Treasurer. Peter Bearse asked if there is a sense with this committee that we should have the Town Clerk come in. He added that the Town Clerk's Office is pretty important; therefore I think we should have her in.

Heidi Carlson began reading the numbers stating that these numbers were based from July. Motor vehicle revenues \$397,213 forecasted to the end of the year about \$730,000. Andy Kohlhofer mentioned that they are now doing boat registrations. Heidi Carlson said yes, but there is not much revenue in it. He also stated that the marriage licenses at \$687 through July have doubled. Heidi Carlson stated the \$5267 for dog licenses will not increase that much more because dog licenses are supposed to be done by April 30th.

Doug McElroy stated that I think we should have her come in. Mike Nygren suggested we should submit some questions, and wait until the wage matrix comes back, unless she is waiting for the Selectmen. Heidi Carlson said as a guideline the Selectmen are probably going to take last year's numbers and add 3%. Doug McElroy said that it doesn't make sense to wait for that. Mike Nygren asked about getting the breakdown of the numbers for motor vehicles, dogs, etc. Heidi Carlson stated that the numbers are easy to get, and they are they are also in the town report. Pat Martel asked is it in the town report. Heidi responded yes it is, for the last few years it has been provided in the town report. Pat Martel read a few numbers from the breakdown in the town report. Heidi Carlson added that you could get a few years worth of analysis from the town reports. Mike Nygren stated that he was inquiring just out of curiosity.

Peter Bearse asked if there is an overlap in the Election and Registration with regards to the Supervisors and the Town Clerk. Heidi Carlson stated that the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk stay under the Executive line. Peter Bearse stated that he remembered this discussion from last week and recommended having them in together on the same night. Charles Kimball added that elections also have the police involved. Mike Nygren asked if that is a detail. Heidi stated that it is paid out of the Police Department line; no it's not a detail. Heidi added that Neil has acted as the Town Moderator, and in that capacity you are not paying another officer he is salaried. Heidi stated that the Deputy Town Clerk, used to get paid a stipend for Election Day, now that is based on an hourly rate. Peter Bearse asked if somebody vacates a position and you have to hold a special election, the key question is how much does it cost us to hold a special election. Heidi Carlson stated that could be figured out. Peter Bearse asked what are the total revenues coming in for the things that they do, and what is the disposition of the revenues. Andy Kohlhofer stated the office is a revenue maker for the town. Heidi Carlson said yes, it is really the only one, aside from building permits.

Heidi Carlson moved onto the Conservation Commission. Andy Kohlhofer questioned why we haven't spent the bond, and asked if we could withdraw it. He also asked what we could do about it as a Budget Committee. Heidi Carlson stated that yes you could propose to withdraw it, but that you would have to

propose a warrant article to do so. Mike Nygren stated that they have this for the approval to purchase land and they haven't spent it yet.

Heidi Carlson stated that the budget is really no different than last years. Heidi detailed the uniqueness of the Conservation Commission with regard to their residual fund. She stated that they are also unique in this area from other departments in that they can carry over residual funds from year to year. Heidi added that the statute 36-A details this. Pat Martel asked is there a limit on how much they can carry over. Heidi Carlson stated no and referred to RSA 36-A for exact information. Andy Kohlhofer asked what they are spending postage on. Heidi responded that Land Use mails out some of their letters, so it doesn't get charged to their account. Andy asked about document purchases. Heidi stated that they might purchase overlay maps, particular books, etc. Andy asked about meetings & seminars. Heidi stated that they bumped it up a couple of years ago to be able to attend more training. Andy asked are there more seminars this year. Heidi stated that they are held all the time for Open Space and Conservation Commission. Mike Nygren noted that the Conservation Commission keeps detailed accounts. A discussion regarding Conservation Fund began. Heidi noted that what ever is left here is left to them. It is separate from the general fund. Heidi stated that if there are other expenses at the end of the year it is charged against Conservation Fund. Heidi added that they could spend it on easements for a piece of land, wetland study, anything conservation-related. She added that they track everything separately. Andy Kohlhofer stated that he would like to see that. Pat Martel mentioned that in the 2006 town report the details of the Conservation Commission funds are listed.

Peter Bearse mentioned that bonding power has not been exercised for \$1,000,000 adding that the statute on this is fairly broad. Heidi Carlson left the table to get the statute on this.

Peter Bearse said that you don't see in the headings that the management of town woods or forests was handed to the Conservation Commission. He asked what does it cost to do that. Heidi Carlson stated the Town has ordinances for the town forests. Doug McElroy added that this releases power within the forests, because before no one could do anything. Now the Conservation Commission has the power to take care of issues such as the destroying of wetlands, etc. Andy Kohlhofer stated the Town's OHRV can't go out in the town forests. Heidi Carlson stated that they probably could, but only for emergency or policing purposes.

Peter Bearse questioned a warrant article at Town Meeting handing over control of the Town's forests or woods to the Conservation Commission. Heidi referred to RSA 110. Doug McElroy agreed that if it costs money to do this there should be a line item for it. Heidi Carlson stated that those expenses have thus far been taken out of the current use fund. Peter Bearse mentioned that he is concerned that the town forests may be neglected because the Conservation Commission has so much on its plate. Heidi Carlson read aloud the RSA pertaining to the Conservation Commission and expenditures of its funds. Andy Kohlhofer asked if a piece of property assessed at \$250,000 was sold to the Town for \$50,000 would it be considered a gift. Heidi Carlson said yes. Andy asked if it is a gift, do they have to get approval from the local governing body to accept it. Heidi stated yes, but that would be from the Selectmen, not from Town Meeting. The Selectmen are the governing body, and Town Meeting is the legislative body. Heidi will make copies of the statute from which she read.

Andy Kohlhofer stated that the statute conflicts with other RSA's. He added that we are here to consider the budgets to recommend or not recommend. He asked does it allow a current use fund to be exempt from our review. Heidi Carlson responded yes. Charles Kimball added that yes I believe it is. Andy asked with regards to the Conservation Fund, could we review it, having no power over it, but offering an opinion on it. Heidi responded I believe that you could, but is there is a budgetary impact on it.

Peter Bearse stated that their budget is about \$1500 too high. He added that in their past history they spent a lot less than they requested in those categories. Andy Kohlhofer said that they overspent themselves in 2005. He added that we could recommend \$1750. Mike Nygren mentioned being careful how you bring this up.

He added that they are very careful on how and why they spend. They don't spend a dime unless they can account for it.

Andy Kohlhofer moved back to the School Board. He stated that he would like to make a recommendation to request to the School Board that the budget doesn't increase more than 4 ½ %, from the bottom line budget of the prior year. Mike Nygren stated that unless you can get an item-by-item listing for discretionary spending, you are going to have a hard time keeping that budget where you think you can. He added that I asked for numbers at our first meeting, and still haven't gotten them. Mike said I went on line and got most of the information myself, they are not accountable to us. It looks like they have 2 more teachers than they requested at the last meeting. Unless we take the discretionary spending away from them, as a budget committee, we have no control over them. Mike continued that unless we can prove that they have misused funds, we can't control them. Doug McElroy stated that we could go through item by item and cut where we have to, but they always seem to find the money somewhere else. Andy Kohlhofer asked if we have any recommendations or things we are looking for. Mike Nygren stated that Annemarie was supposed to have some numbers. Charles Kimball said Peg Pinkham may have the numbers for you, but couldn't be here. Andy Kohlhofer asked when they submit the budget, do they have the RSA with it. Mike Nygren said no. Andy asked should suggest the RSA with it. Mike Nygren stated that once you give it to them, they can spend it as they see fit. He added that they are pushing the gifted program under special education so you can't touch it. Doug McElroy stated we could take it out of special ed., adding if you pull so much out of everything, eventually it will affect the bottom line. Doug stated all we can do is recommend, and let the voters have that choice. He continued, that as a board, we need to scrutinize even more than we did last year. Andy Kohlhofer added that so much is mandated. Doug McElroy said we have to dissect it. Andy suggested what ever isn't mandated, this is what we are looking for. Charles Kimball stated that it goes up a ½ million dollars per year. Pat Martel said lets put a list of requests out to them and it gives us something to go by. Charles Kimball mentioned that people should start going to the School Board meetings. Andy Kohlhofer said they all put their hands up and voted for it, but people can't afford it.

Donald Gates, Jr. stated that he copied the RSA regarding what Charles had stated earlier, noting that it is conflicting. He read aloud pertaining to the collective bargaining agreement. Mike Nygren said I would agree with you if it was this year, but we voted last year for 2 years.

Peter Bearse brought up the Long Range Planning Committee. Doug McElroy stated that they don't actually use any numbers until they start doing something. Mike Nygren added that they use approximates. Peter Bearse stated that this is the worst kept secret in town, the building of a new middle school. Doug McElroy said there are overcrowding issues and it is just brainstorming ideas. We have voters that can determine what to do. Peter Bearse is concerned the public is going to be sandbagged. Heidi Carlson stated that the next Long Range Facilities Planning Committee meeting is Wednesday November 14 at 6:00 pm at Ellis School.

Peter Bearse asked is the SAU required under state law to have a superintendent. Donald Gates, Jr., and Andy Kohlhofer replied we don't know, but would like to know. Charles Kimball stated that he believes the SAU has to have a superintendent.

With nothing further to discuss. Andy Kohlhofer motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mike Nygren.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 pm.

The next scheduled meeting of the Budget Committee is Wednesday, November 14, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Arsenault
Recording Secretary